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Helps by the Way.

One little grain in the sandy bars;
One little flower in a field of flow-
ers;
One little star in a heaven of stars;
One little hour in a year of hours;
What if it makes, what if it mars?
But the bar is built of the little grains,
And the little flowers make the
meadows gay.
And the little stars light the heav-
enly plains,
And the little hours of each little
day,
Give to us all that life contains.
—ST. NICHOLAS.

OTTOWA, KANS.

Feb. 12.—I will try to report from this part of God's moral vineyard. Brother Joseph Michaels came to us on Jan. 25th, and preached eleven sermons. The attendance was fair considering bad roads and cold weather. He spoke the word with power, and most of the hearers never heard the faith preached before. The members here consisted mostly of Episcopal, Methodist and Union Baptist, and were under the impression we were of the Old Dunkard style, of which they had some acquaintance. Hence they felt somewhat cold and reserved, but we are glad to say they became better acquainted with us. The seed sown may spring up and bear some fruit, as bread cast upon the water.

There is a church of G. B.'s close where this meeting was held; almost in their immediate neighborhood. Only one of them attended and his family. We hope they were edified so they may abandon tradition and cleave to the Gospel alone. One young lady, a G. B., came to us, and we have the promise of another. The views of tradition caused them to seek more genial grounds, and liberty to worship.

I have read Bro. Spanogle's Retrospect with much pleasure. Bro. J. Michaels left us on the 9th inst. for Edgerton, Kans., thence to Olatha, where he expects to organize a church. He expects Bro. Hixson to meet him. The good cause is moving slowly but surely.

Brothers and sisters, let us all pray for the cause.

Work for the night is coming.
S. G. LONGAKER.

MARSHALTOWN, IOWA.

DEAR EDITOR: I will once more try and write you a few lines, to let you know that the paper is a very welcome visitor to our house, and is always read with the greatest of pleasure. We regret that there is no church organization here, but trust that the time is not far distant when we will have a church here. There are but few of us, yet the blessing of God is still with us.

I have been waiting and reading to see what brother or sister would send in a statement of how many united to the church by baptism in the year 1885, beginning on the first of January 1885, and closing on Dec. 31 1885. By the reports given in the EVANGELIST in the year, I have kept an account and find it to be 2,312 who have united by baptism in the past year. May God add his blessings so that our number

may be increased a hundred fold in the coming year. In conclusion I would like to see how many of the brethren have taken the interest to see how the cause is prospering. If any one else has kept an account, please send in your statement and let us see how we agree in our count as to the number of soldiers that enlisted under the Banner of King Emanuel.

May the blessing of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit rest and abide with all the true followers of Christ.

M. J. BARNARD.

CHATHAM, OHIO.

Feb. 13.—Our protracted effort is a thing of the past. We cannot let it go by without giving a short report of it. Our pastor, Bro. H. S. Jacobs, did the work with the united assistance of his brethren and sisters and God gave us an increase of six bright and shining lights for which we feel amply repaid for our protracted effort. Without being egotistical, I must say that the converts that have been received into our church at Homer since our reorganization are undoubtedly the most zealous and earnest workers in the Master's vineyard that I have ever met, and with Bro. Jacobs as leader I think if there is such a thing as a model church, the church at Homer will fill that bill. Our meetings closed last Sabbath with a full house and interest good.

We pray God that he will bless us in the future as abundantly as he has in the past, and as a church, that we may still continue to work with the same zeal and brotherly love, and give our beloved pastor who has labored so faithfully for us, such strength and wisdom that he may proclaim the word with increased power, if possible, so that many more may be added to the church.

HENRY HOMEN.

CORBIN, KANS.

Feb. 15.—Today we leave this place for Mulvane. During our meetings here, as usual, we met with some opposition, but not of the usual kind. Our opposition here consisted in—1. Snow blizzards and drifts. 2. In slush and ice. 3. In mud. 4. In writing schools and the consequent necessity of changing our base of operation.

During our meetings here two united by relation and three were baptized. One more applicant. In all six accessions to the church.

People claim the meetings have just begun to be interesting.

O how I wish the Brethren would hurry up and get rich enough to keep their preachers longer at a place, than just to awaken an interest.

In a few weeks we expect to be at Montana, Kans., in the neighborhood of J. B. Lair's. Then perhaps we will meet again with the usual kind of oppositions. Pray for us.

W. J. H. BAUMAN.

ALBRIGHTSVILLE, W. VA.

I recently had the pleasure of visiting the Brethren at West Independence, Hancock Co., Ohio. Spent three weeks with them very pleasantly, and we trust, profitably to all. We feel that it was "good for us to be there," as we were aided financially and strengthened spiritually. After our meeting had been in progress a week Bro's Killheffer and Leedy put in an appearance and rendered valuable assistance. We are glad to have had the pleasure of forming their acquaintance. They are both earnest and zealous laborers and should be actively engaged in the work. We are much pleased with Hancock Co., but better pleased with the kind and noble hearted Brethren and Sisters we met there. We had our home with Bro. Augustus Krabille and cannot forbear returning thanks to them for the manifold kindness shown us. In fact we were kindly treated by all and feel slightly elated with the idea of locating among them.

At the conclusion of our meetings at West Independence, in company with Bro. Leedy we went to Bellfontaine. Spent a few days with brother and sister March, who treated us with marked kindness and gave us much encouragement by their substantial aid.

Their hearts are in the work and they earnestly desire to see their children brought into the fold; hope their desire may be realized ere long. Our meeting at Bellfontaine was short, consisting of one sermon by Bro. Leedy and six by myself. Sorry we could not remain longer as we believe glorious results would have followed. After we are located at West Independence, we expect to return to Bellfontaine and complete the well begun work there.

During our meeting at Bellfontaine, in company with Bro. and sister March, we visited Bro. Samuel Miller who received us kindly and told us that he had been a member of the Brethren Church for two years and thought that he was alone in Logan Co., not knowing that there was another member in it. Nor did Bro. and sister March know that he was a member. So we were all made to rejoice by the development of this fact. In short, we were well pleased with our visit to Logan Co.

We will make a public sale on Saturday Feb. 20th, preparatory to moving to our charge at West Independence, Ohio.

In conclusion we thank those dear brethren and sisters for their kindness, liberality and hospitality shown us during our visit among them.

May the good Lord help them to be faithful and zealous laborers in the Master's vineyard and to press forward the conquest till Jesus shall be proclaimed "King of Kings, and Lord of Lords."

A. M. RIDENOUR.

JOHNSTOWN, PA.

I notice in your No. 5, in brother H. R. Holsinger's editor-

ial, that there is "too much sectarianism lurking around." "A brother," "A sister," "J. and J.," and such like signatures do not suit me. I certainly endorse the statement, and when I read a piece I want to know by whom it was written.

I have not heard a word spoken about evangelistic work. I think every one must be waiting on "J. and J." I like to see the work go on, as I think there could be a great amount of good done.

LUCINDA BERKEBILE.

DAYTON, OHIO.

Feb. 19.—To brother E. S. Miller belongs the honor of preaching the introductory sermons of the first series of meetings ever held in the Brethren church on the corner of Jackson and VanBuren streets. What a record for a church nearly 50 years old! Who is responsible? Eternity will answer.

But it is never too late to do good, and brother Miller did so with heart and soul during the past week. He preached five sermons, brother R. K. Binkley one, and brother James A. Ridenour one.

The meetings daily became more interesting, hence, the church concluded to continue them indefinitely.

Bro. Miller will preach next Sabbath, morning and evening. Bro. Ridenour will preach every evening during the week, except Saturday, also on the following Sabbath, morning and evening.

Probably brethren Mason, Martin, and others, will take part in this good work—one at a time. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

"Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and bless the Lord."

SAMUEL KIEHL.

LOUISVILLE, OHIO.

On the 25 of January, my wife and I started for Knox co., to hold a series of meetings.

We came to Orrville. Paid a visit to David Irvin's over night; were received and treated very kindly. They have a warm place in our hearts. He and his good wife are progressive in their views but are still with the old church as they have no division.

Next day we landed at Ross-ville. Here we met our esteemed brother, Isaac Ross, the minister of that church, and he conveyed us to his home. We were welcomed by his family and we made our home with them during our stay of three weeks. We assisted them in conducting a series of meetings. We did what we could; were kindly treated and had much enjoyment. We closed the meetings with seeming good interest. Came home on the 17 inst, and found all well. Many thanks to the Brethren for their kindness, and may God bless them.

We are now conducting a meeting in our home church.

JOSIAH KEIM.

TERRA ALTA, W. VA.

Feb. 18.—On Monday Jan. 25, I left home for Clifton Mills, W. Va. Arrived safe at said place in the evening; found the home of Bro. W. M. Ridenour and put up for the night. On Tuesday I commenced a meeting in the Union Church at said place and continued until the evening of Feb. 16th, when we closed. As an immediate result seventeen were added to the "Brethren Church,"—fourteen by relation from the G. B. church and three from the world. The G. B. church here is presided over by Eld. Sol. Bucklew of A. M. proclivities. We never met a more decided and determined opposition than we had to encounter here. Our meetings from beginning to the close were more or less disturbed. We put up with all as best we could until Sunday 14th, when the elder preached a sermon (this was his regular day for preaching at said place and we went to hear him) from Paul's language, "Whatsoever a man soweth, he shall also reap," in which he tried to press the assertion that our doctrine savored of sowing to the flesh and that the minister that preached such doctrines was sowing to the flesh. This we could endure no longer. Consequently a conversational controversy took place in which we challenged him to a public discussion of our church differences. This he declined, no doubt for want of faith in their customs, and usages. Having no other recourse we then stated to the people that in the evening we would take up some of the points in dispute, and invited the Elder to meet with us. This he refused to do, but about the time for opening the services, he made his appearance at the door with between twenty and thirty of his members. They came and seated themselves around the pulpit as closely as possible. True to our statement at daytime we took up the subject as stated. So ended the services of the evening. This is all at present. About the middle of April we will have something more to tell you about Clifton Mills.

Yours in hope.

S. W. WILT.

CLIFTON MILLS, W. VA.

Feb. 15.—The writer had some correspondence for a short time in the past, the result of which was the appearance of Eld. S. W. Wilt, of Terra Alta, W. Va., on the evening of Jan. 25th. On the evening of the 25th, he planted the Gospel-alone battery right in the midst of the German Baptist camp and began an aggressive work against traditions, customs and usages. Success has been crowning his efforts. Meeting's still continue but will probably soon close.

W. M. RIDENOUR.

It is good for us to think no grace or blessing is truly ours till we are aware that God has blessed some one else with it through us."